

15. The laminar textile assembly of claim 14 further characterized by the laminar textile assembly having a permeability of 500 rayls ( $N \cdot s/m^3$ ) or less. --

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**In the Drawings:**

Proposed Drawing Amendment as shown on the Sheet 1 with Figures 1 and copy of 3 marked in red, to illustrate the proposed changes, is submitted herewith. This amendment adds the legend "Prior Art" to Fig. 1 and the reference numeral "15" to Fig. 3 to label the void between the textile tufts.

**REMARKS**

Now submitted claims 7-15 are currently pending in this application; claims 1-6 have been canceled. Independent claim 7 recites, *inter alia*, a backing having embedded textile tufts with a layer of polymeric material overlying the backing and disposed within the textile tufts to define voids between the textile tufts. Claim 7 is supported by the originally filed drawings which illustrate a backing 10 having textile tufts 12 embedded therein with a layer of polymeric material 14 overlying the backing. Figs. 3 and 4 illustrate polymeric material 14 disposed within the tufts 12 and voids 15 therebetween. Claim 8 recites, *inter alia*, a

secondary substrate disposed adjacent the polymeric material. New claims 9-12 are directed to a laminated vehicle sound insulating carpet panel. Claims 13-15 are directed to a laminar textile assembly. The specification at page 7, is amended to be consistent with Fig. 3, which is amended to add the numeral 15 to the voids between the tufts as originally illustrated.

No new matter is added to the application by this Amendment.

#### **Communication With the Examiner**

On February 8, 2001, a telephone communication occurred between Examiner Juska and Applicants' representative. During the communication, Examiner Juska instructed the filing of this Amendment without a commitment to allow the application and subject to an additional search.

Applicants thank Examiner Juska for her courtesies in this matter.

#### **In the Specification**

Applicants have amended the specification to be consistent with the proposed changes to the drawings.

New claims 7-15 recite that a portion of the polymeric material is disposed within the plurality of tufts and a plurality of voids are created between the plurality of tufts. These structural features result in the permeable claimed laminar assembly. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that new claims 7-15 overcome all of the Examiner's stated rejections.

**Applicant:** Price, et al.  
**Application No.:** 09/266,155

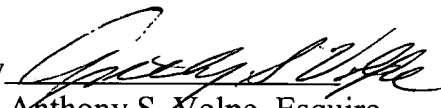
If the Examiner believes a conference, telephonically or in person, would expedite placing this application in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that she get in contact the undersigned, to array the same.

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Price, et al.

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ASV/RGZ/ns  
Enclosure

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**Marked-up copy of amended paragraph starting on page 7, line 1:**

In order to form a finished panel, a specific blank size was cut and heated prior to molding. Through reheating of the carpet laminate, the polymeric layer 14 begins wetting out or wicking-in, see **Figures 3 and 4**. This causes the polymeric layer 14 to flow into the primary backing 10 and the tufts 12 and initiates the creation of voids 15 between the tufts 12. This is the beginning of the transformation from a non-permeable to a permeable laminate. The voids 15 that are formed in the polymeric layer 14 result in the laminate being permeable. The transformation to the desired permeability was achieved by stretching, molding and curing the heated laminate.